

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 29 (canceled)

30. (currently amended) A server for communicating with a plurality of user terminals via a communication network, comprising:

a memory unit for storing a first object information item including identification information of one of said user terminals, communication capability information of a plurality of second object information items including plural kinds of attribute information relating to the user terminal or a user of the user terminal, and hierarchical access permission setting values with respect corresponding to a plurality of access operations having different priority levels-predefined and predefined for each of said identification information and said communication capability information, and first and second object information items, said first and second object information items being stored in association with vertical relation information to form a layered object structure for categorizing said second object information items in hierarchical relation and indicating that access permission information for said identification first object information item has the highest permission priority and each of said second object information items has higher permission priority than access permission information that for said communication

~~capability~~ the other second object information items at a lower position in the layered object structure;

a network interface connected to said communication network; and

a controller, connected to said memory unit and said network interface, for controlling access operations requested to one of ~~said identification information or said communication capability~~ first and second object information items based on said hierarchical access permission setting values,

wherein said controller operates, in response to a request for changing the access permission setting value of a specific one of said access operations for a specific one of ~~said communication capability~~ second object information items from a non-permission state to a permission state received through said network interface, so as to rewrite access permission values of access operations each having a priority level equal to or higher than that of said specific access operation into the permission state ~~in both for said identification information and said communication capability~~ specific second object information item and at least one of said first and second object information items each having a hierarchical relation with the specific second object information item and having permission priority higher than that of the specific second object information item in said layered structure; and

wherein said controller operates, in response to a request for changing the access permission setting value of ~~a said~~ a specific one of said access operations ~~for said identification information~~ from the permission state to the non-permission state received through said network interface, so as to rewrite access permission values of access operations each having a priority level equal to or ~~higher~~ lower than that of said specific access operation into the non-permission state ~~in both for~~ said

~~identification information and said communication capability~~ specific second object information item and the other second information items each having a hierarchical relation with the specific second object information item and having permission priority lower than that of the specific second object information item.

31. (previously presented) The server according to claim 30,
wherein said access operations include an information disclosure operation,
an information read operation and an information write operation, and
wherein the information disclosure operation has a priority level higher than
that of the information read operation, and the information read operation has a
priority level higher than that of the information write operation.